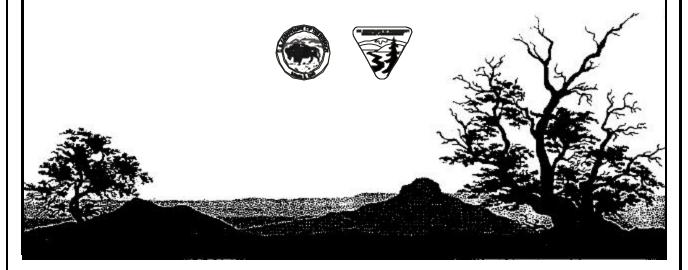
Albuquerque Field Office Resource Management Plan

UPDATE DOCUMENT 1999-2000

United States Department of the Interior Bureau ofLandManagement Albuquerque Field Office





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Albuquerque Field Office 435 Montaño Rd. N.E. Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107-4935 www.nm.blm.gov



IN REPLY REFER TO: 1614 (010)

AUG 2 8 2000

Dear Reader:

The purpose of this document is to update you on our progress in implementing the Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan (RMP), completed in November 1986 for the Rio Puerco Resource Area, now the Albuquerque Field Office (AFO). Because implementation is continuing over a number of years, we are issuing updates until the RMP is fully implemented. This Update presents the accomplishments for calendar years 1998-1999 and the implementation actions planned for 2000. The planned implementation actions described in this Update are presented by resource program in the same sequence as in the Final RMP; most are in simple list format with a short, one- or two-sentence description. We present a brief narrative ("Program Notes") for the resource programs that require more detailed discussion. A list of the environmental assessments (EAs) prepared in 1998, 1999, and 2000 is included as Appendix 1.

The planned actions include those major actions, activity plans, and EAs that warrant public participation. Project-specific developments such as sign placements are not listed as planned actions. If you wish to participate in the development of specific resource program activity plans or review the EAs, please contact us. We encourage your participation in this phase of RMP implementation. We believe we are making continued progress toward improving the management of our public lands. To all of those who are involved in helping us in this process, we wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Many of the planned actions will be accomplished through volunteer help. Volunteers are a critical component of our recreation, wilderness, wildlife, cultural, and paleontological programs, and contribute important work in many other programs as well. We encourage you to contact the appropriate field office specialist at (505)761-8700 if you would like to be involved in one of these projects.

All scheduled planned actions are based on current priorities and budgets. If priorities and budget allocations shift during the year, the schedules for the planned actions may also change. Planned actions for both 1998 and 1999 in the Soil, Water, and Air Program, the Range Program, and the Forestry Program were postponed due to staff time being devoted to responding to ongoing litigation and appeals by individuals and groups opposed to livestock grazing and commercial tree harvest on public lands.

We, of course, cannot summarize all of the work planned for the AFO for the coming year in this letter; however, we would like to highlight a number of programs. We are focusing on improving grazing management, as well as identifying and controlling the noxious weeds that are moving into northern New Mexico. We are drafting and implementing fire management plans to decrease sagebrush invasion and reduce hazardous fuels. We are engaged in proposed land exchanges with San Felipe and Santo Domingo pueblos and the State of New Mexico. Lastly, we expect to finalize the Final Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement for managing El Malpais National Conservation Area (NCA).

The Rio Puerco Watershed has been a focus of concern, study, and restoration efforts for many years. Through the Rio Puerco Watershed Act of 1996, Congress directed the BLM to establish the Rio Puerco Management Committee (RPMC), a partnership consensus group, to compile data and develop best management practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion, increase native vegetation, and improve riparian habitat while supporting the rural, agrarian character of the drainage basin. Since approval of the Rio Puerco RMP in 1986, the AFO has been implementing watershed management plans, grazing plans, reclamation and reforestation efforts, and riparian protection projects. The establishment of the RPMC has allowed coordination of similar efforts across administrative and ownership boundaries within the drainage basin. The RPMC has supported and funded eight projects, and in 1998 received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Excellence Award for nonpoint source pollution management..

We have improved visitor services for El Malpais NCA. A new multi-agency visitor center, just off Interstate 40, opened last year staffed by the BLM, the National Park Service (NPS) and U.S. Forest Service. This facility provides information on a host of scenic attractions in the Grants area. Visitor services at the Tent Rocks Special Management Area have also improved significantly with an improved parking area, restrooms, and information signing. Tent Rocks is under consideration for designation as a National Monument because of its outstanding scientific, cultural, scenic, and recreational values. The Governor of the Pueblo de Cochiti has been authorized and directed by the Council to pursue the possibility of Tent Rocks becoming a designated National Monument managed by BLM, and the Sandoval and Bernalillo county commissions have both passed resolutions in support of the designation.

In partnership with NPS, we are preparing a Joint Fire Management Plan, together with an environmental assessment for El Malpais NCA and El Malpais National Monument. Under the preferred alternative, three fire management zones would be identified for BLM and NPS lands: a fire suppression zone, a wildland fire use zone, and a fuels management zone. The goal of this plan would be to, as much as possible, return fire to its natural role in the ecosystem. If the preferred alternative is adopted, BLM and NPS may utilize prescribed fire as well as non-fire treatments to reduce fuels hazards to more natural levels in El Malpais NCA and El Malpais National Monument.

Finally, our Lands and Minerals staff retains a significant workload. The Albuquerque Field Office administers lands that have a high interest not only for open space but also for mineral materials such as cinders or gravel and fluid minerals such as oil and gas. The need for rights-of-way for fiber optic lines, pipelines, and electric lines is ongoing. We continue to receive interest in BLM lands that can be used for public purposes such as new schools. We hope to secure Land and Water Conservation Funding to acquire lands within the boundary of El Malpais NCA, as well as purchase or exchange for other lands that will enhance long term management goals.

Our staff works hard to provide a balance of use and protection of the lands entrusted to us. We hope you find the information contained in this Update to be informative.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Singleton Field Manager

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE DOCUMENT

INTRODUCTION

This is another in a series of "Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan Updates." The purpose of this document is to update the public on implementation of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan (RMP), completed in November 1986 for the Rio Puerco Resource Area, now the Albuquerque Field Office (AFO). Because implementation of the RMP will continue over a number of years, updates will be issued until the RMP is fully implemented. This Update presents the accomplishments for calendar years 1998 and 1999, and the implementation actions planned for 2000.

The planned implementation actions described in this Update are presented by resource program in the same sequence as the Final RMP (November 1986). Most are in simple list format with a short one- or two-sentence description. A brief narrative ("Program Notes") is presented for the resource programs which require more detailed discussion. A list of the environmental assessments (EAs) for calendar years 1998, 1999, and 2000 is included as Appendix 1.

The planned implementation actions address those major actions, activity plans, and environmental assessments which warrant public participation. Project-specific developments such as sign placements are not listed as planned actions. If you wish to participate in the development of specific resource program activity plans or review the EAs, please contact us. We encourage your participation in this phase of RMP implementation.

Many of the planned actions proposed are accomplished through volunteer help. We encourage you to contact the appropriate field office specialist at 761-8700 if you would like to volunteer for one of these projects.

All scheduled planned actions are based on current priorities and budgets. If priorities and budget allocations shift during the year, the schedules for the planned actions may also change. Planned actions for both 1998 and 1999 in the Soil, Water, and Air Program, the Range Program, and the Forestry Program were postponed due to staff time being devoted to responding to ongoing litigation and appeals by individuals and

groups opposed to livestock grazing and commercial tree harvest on public lands.

For a number of years, the Rio Puerco Watershed has been a focus of concern, considerable study, and restoration efforts. The Omnibus Parks and Public Land Management Act of October 1, 1996 included a section known as the Rio Puerco Watershed Act that spoke specifically to the Rio Puerco Drainage Basin. The legislation directed the BLM to establish the Rio Puerco Management Committee (RPMC), a partnership consensus group charged with compiling data and developing best management practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion, increase native vegetation, and improve riparian habitat while supporting the rural, agrarian character of the drainage basin. The committee's current membership includes State, Federal and tribal agencies, soil and water conservation districts, residents from rural communities in the watershed, environmental and conservation groups, and the public-at-large. The RPMC has developed goals for watershed restoration, on-theground projects, and a unique collaborative process which involves a broad-based, watershed-wide stewardship commitment.

As called for by the legislation, BLM has established a clearinghouse for data and research which includes current and historical information from as far back as 1928. This clearinghouse contains data concerning the extent and causes of watershed impairment, and in the future will include an inventory of the BMPs and related monitoring activities. As the management committee monitors project results, it will recommend appropriate treatments or guidelines to be used voluntarily on private and public lands to improve ecological, cultural, and economic conditions. These guidelines will be directed toward maintaining and improving the condition of the watershed on both public and private lands. Through RMP implementation, resource specialists in the AFO have worked on watershed management plans, grazing management plans, reclamation and reforestation efforts, and riparian protection. These efforts have focused on stabilizing the watershed and minimizing impacts from authorized use on the public lands within the watershed. This continues to be our focus.

The establishment of a management committee has permitted a coordinated effort across administrative and ownership boundaries within the drainage basin. Additional information sharing and outreach efforts associated with the State and Federal agencies, affected tribes and pueblos, local soil and water conservation districts, irrigation districts, and private land owners will continue to occur through the committee. The committee will work to further develop and implement the BMPs.

CHANGING THE RMP

The Rio Puerco RMP is the guiding document for management of the public land resources in the AFO for the next five to ten years. The document is corrected and updated to ensure that this anticipated life expectancy is met. The three techniques for updating the RMP are maintenance, amendment, and revision. Plan maintenance, a continuous process, corrects errors in the text, updates data bases, and corrects mapping and other table and graphic errors. A reissue of the RMP was printed in 1992 incorporating changes made through the maintenance process since 1986. It was mailed early in 1993 and is still available upon request. Plan amendments are major changes which affect one or more of the RMP decisions and involve public participation. Plan revision involves a complete rewrite of the RMP.

The AFO completed work on the Ignacio Chavez Special Management Area Environmental Assessment/Plan Amendment in 1998 by issuing the Final Decision Record.

A second plan amendment was completed in April, 2000. Work began on the New Mexico Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management Statewide RMP Amendment/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in 1995. The Draft RMP Amendment/EIS was issued in February, 1999; the Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS was issued in January, 2000; and the Record of Decision was signed in April, 2000.

Also during 1998 and 1999, we made significant progress on the El Malpais National Conservation Area General Management Plan/Plan Amendment (GMP/PA) begun in 1995. The Draft GMP/PA was issued for public review in June, 1999. The Proposed GMP/PA will be issued in 2000, with the Record of Decision expected in late 2000.

Scoping meetings will be held this fall for a proposed RMP amendment addressing projected oil and gas development in the AFO over the next 20 years. This issue was addressed in a previous RMP amendment finalized in 1991. However, oil and gas resources have been developed at a higher rate than anticipated, and the new amendment is necessary to establish a new rate of

reasonable foreseeable development on 1.87 million acres of Federal oil and gas resources in the AFO.

RESOURCE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Energy and Minerals

1998 Accomplishments

- Completed 1 Federal mineral material appraisal.
- Conducted quarterly compliance inspections and production verifications on 7 Indian mineral material leases.
- Conducted 48 uranium lease inspections on Indian allotted lands.
- Completed the Ball Ranch Mineral Potential Report and El Malpais Patent Project Mineral Potential Report.
- Reviewed and approved 2 Indian mineral material mining and reclamation plans.
- Updated Indian mineral material data bases.
- Conducted 25 mining claim surface management compliance inspections.
- Processed 2 Notices of Intent to operate on mining claims.
- Completed and approved 5 negotiated sales, 2 Free Use Permits for State and local governments, and 29 individual sales. Approximately 1,024,000 tons of mineral material were mined. Total revenue received was \$287,000.
- Resolved 1 mineral material trespass.
- Conducted 42 mineral material environmental compliance inspections.
- Conducted 238 production accountability and independent measurement handling inspections on Indian and Federal oil and gas leases.
- Witnessed 26 plugging and abandonment inspections on 10 wells to ensure environmentally sound development and abandonment of oil and gas resources. Completed surface restoration on 10 wells.
- Conducted 73 environmental inspections.
- Reviewed and processed 60 Applications for Permit to Drill. Processed 1,210 Sundry Notices.

- Reviewed 91 parcels for oil and gas leasing.
- Processed and approved 1 3-D seismic project.
- Conducted 1 joint oil truck roadblock with the Jicarilla Apache Tribe.

1999 Accomplishments

- Completed 4 Federal mineral material appraisals and 4 Federal mineral material reappraisals.
- Conducted quarterly compliance inspections and production verifications on 7 Indian mineral material leases.
- Conducted 44 uranium lease inspections on Indian allotted lands.
- Completed the UNM/Lodestar Recreation and Public Purposes Lease Mineral Potential Report.
- Reviewed and approved 2 Indian mineral material mining and reclamation plans. Also prepared the environmental assessment (EA) and bond determination.
- Updated Indian mineral material data bases.
- Conducted 26 mining claim surface management compliance inspections.
- Processed 1 Notice of Intent to operate on mining claims.
- Conducted 2 enforcement actions for illegal occupancy of mining claims.
- Completed and approved 8 negotiated sales, 3 Free Use Permits for State and local governments, and 33 individual sales. Approximately 1,714,000 tons of mineral material were mined. Total revenue received was \$382,345.
- Processed 1 permit for the exploration of Federal mineral materials.
- Completed the EA for the Santa Ana Mine expansion.
- Resolved 1 mineral material trespass.
- Conducted 48 mineral material environmental compliance inspections.
- Conducted 475 production accountability and independent measurement handling inspections on Indian and Federal oil and gas leases.

- Witnessed 18 plugging and abandonment inspections on 20 wells to ensure environmentally sound development and abandonment of oil and gas resources. Completed surface restoration on 15 wells.
- Conducted 215 environmental inspections.
- Reviewed and processed 72 Applications for Permit to Drill. Processed 1,246 Sundry Notices.
- Reviewed 25 parcels for oil and gas leasing.
- Processed and approved 1 3-D seismic project.
- Conducted 1 joint oil truck roadblock with the Jicarilla Apache Tribe.

2000 Planned Actions

- Conduct Indian and Federal mineral material appraisals as required.
- Conduct quarterly compliance inspections and production verifications on 12 Indian mineral material leases.
- Conduct 44 uranium lease inspections on Indian allotted lands.
- Complete Mineral Potential Reports in support of the Realty Program.
- Review and approve 2 Indian mineral material mining and reclamation plans as received.
- Update Indian mineral material data bases.
- Conduct 27 mining claim surface management compliance inspections.
- Process 2 Notices of Intent to operate on mining claims.
- Resolve 1 mineral material trespass.
- Complete and approve 10 negotiated sales, 2 Free Use Permits for State and local governments, and 30 individual sales.
- Process 1 permit for the exploration of Federal mineral materials.
- Conduct 40 mineral material environmental compliance inspections.
- Conduct 550 production accountability and independent measurement handling inspections on Indian and Federal oil and gas leases.

- Witness 10 plugging and abandonment inspections on 5 wells to ensure environmentally sound development and abandonment of oil and gas resources. Complete surface restoration on 10 wells.
- Conduct 300 environmental inspections.
- Review and process 55 Applications for Permit to Drill. Process 1,200 Sundry Notices.
- Review 15 parcels for oil and gas leasing.
- Conduct 2 joint oil truck roadblocks with the Jicarilla Apache Tribe.

Hazardous Materials Management

1998 Accomplishments

- Completed Draft Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for Fort Wingate Southern Parcel and 2 ESAs in support of land exchanges.

1999 Accomplishments

- Completed 1 ESA in support of land exchange.
- Coordinated with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on locating WWII precision bombing ranges on public lands within AFO.

2000 Planned Actions

- Complete ESA for Fort Wingate (in conjunction with Bureau of Indian Affairs).
- Respond to hazardous materials issues including ESAs and emergency response.

Paleontology

1998 Accomplishments

- Continued volunteer excavations under permit at the Peterson Site in Boney Canyon. Fossil material from the site is part of the Fossil Works exhibit at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science.
- Developed other educational exhibits and programs with the NM Museum of Natural History and Science.
- Catalog published of BLM fossils curated at the NM Museum of Natural History and Science.
- Sponsored scientific symposiums and conferences on paleontological resources in the AFO.

- Monitored and supported activities associated with paleontological research and collection in the AFO. Three new major sites were recorded and documented.
- Monitored paleontology Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs).

1999 Accomplishments

- Continued volunteer excavations under permit at the Peterson Site in Boney Canyon.
- Provided materials for new building for safe storage of dinosaur fossils from the Peterson Site.
- Continued the partnership with the NM Museum of Natural History and Science to develop exhibits and programs. Ten papers published in scientific journals.
- Continued to support collection and research of paleontological resources in the AFO.
- Prepared the Torrejon Fossil Fauna ACEC Management Plan.
- Monitored paleontology ACECs.

2000 Planned Actions

- Continue volunteer excavations under permit at the Peterson Site in Boney Canyon.
- Cooperate in erection of new building for safe storage of dinosaur fossils from the Peterson Site; materials for building provided by AFO.
- Update catalog of BLM fossils curated at the NM Museum of Natural History and Science.
- Continue partnership with the NM Museum of Natural History and Science.
- Continue to support collection and research of paleontological resources in the AFO.
- Complete Torrejon Fossil Fauna ACEC Management Plan.
- Develop web page on paleontology program in AFO.
- Continue monitoring of paleontology ACECs.

Soil, Water, and Air

Program Notes. The Rio Puerco Watershed Act directed the BLM to establish a Rio Puerco Management

Committee (RPMC) that is a partnership consensus group charged with compiling data, developing and implementing best management practices (BMPs), increasing native vegetation, and improving riparian habitat while supporting the rural, agrarian character of the watershed. A model for the unified Federal approach to the Clean Water Action Plan, the RPMC has relied on good science and a synthesis of different viewpoints and perspectives to define the ecological, cultural, and economic characteristics needed to maintain a healthy watershed. The committee has supported and funded eight projects ranging from returning the Rio Puerco to its original meander through an agreement with the NM State Highway and Transportation Department, to controlling erosion and reducing sediment flows, improving range management practices, controlling sagebrush invasion, and using herds of cattle to revegetate and stabilize mine overburden. In 1998 the RPMC received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Excellence Award for nonpoint source pollution management.

1998 Accomplishments

- Completed sagebrush shaving treatment on 400 acres of frozen ground.
- Completed sagebrush herbicide treatment on 2,209 acres.
- Constructed 24 single wire fence checks on the Shroyer Grazing Allotment.
- Completed maintenance of culverts in the Chijuilla and San Isidro watersheds.
- Treated approximately ½ mile of stream channel to reduce saltcedar invasion.
- Completed a watershed analysis on 22,800 acres.
- Constructed 2 ponds in the Rio Puerco floodplain.
- Continued coordination and cooperation through a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey for operation of the benchmark runoff and sediment monitoring station on the Rio Puerco.
- Continued to collect acid rain gauge data for the National Atmospheric Deposition Program.
- Continued participation in adjudication of water rights in AFO.

1999 Accomplishments

- Completed sagebrush treatments on 13,134 acres.

- Completed watershed analysis and assessments on 452.476 acres.
- Completed 7 water quality compliance actions, including 1 for the public drinking water supply in El Malpais NCA.
- Inventoried condition of 180 of the larger dams in the Upper Rio Puerco Watershed.
- Repaired and converted a breached detention dam into a drop structure.
- Continued coordination and cooperation through a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey for operation of the runoff and sediment monitoring station on the Rio Puerco.
- Continued to collect acid rain gauge data for the National Atmospheric Deposition Program.
- Added impacts to microbiotic soil crust to environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act.
- Continued participation in adjudication of water rights in AFO. Received final judgement of BLM water rights claims in the Jemez Basin.

2000 Planned Actions

- Complete watershed analysis and assessments on 4,000 acres.
- Repair 2 large dams.
- Survey and design repairs on 5 large dams.
- Perform maintenance on 10 small rock check dams.
- Construct 2 rock check dams.
- Process 5 water rights actions.
- Treat 6,300 acres of sagebrush.
- Continue coordination and cooperation through a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey for operation of the benchmark runoff and sediment monitoring station on the Rio Puerco.
- Continue to collect acid rain gauge data for the National Atmospheric Deposition Program.
- Continue participation in adjudication of water rights in AFO.

Riparian and Wetlands

Program Notes. The Riparian Program has been a separate program from the Soil, Water, and Air program for several years. It is tracked separately and has its own goals and initiatives. We will be reporting it as a stand alone program in this document.

1998 Accomplishments

- Constructed 2 sump ponds in the Wilson Canyon Riparian Area to improve the local habitat for amphibians and migrating birds.
- Planted cottonwood poles in the Wilson Canyon Riparian Area behind a protection fence surrounding the 2 sump ponds.
- Established a riparian pasture along 2 miles of the Arrovo Chico within the Azabache Grazing Allotment.
- Treated 90 acres with herbicide to remove saltcedar (tamarisk) from riparian areas within the Rio Puerco Watershed.

1999 Accomplishments

- Completed 55 miles of riparian habitat re-assessment.
- Initiated an environmental impact statement assessing riparian habitat within AFO. Anticipated completion is October, 2000.
- Planted 110 cottonwood poles and 50 containerized seedlings in the Wilson Canyon, Coal Creek, and Rinconada Canyon riparian areas.
- Constructed riparian area protection fences enclosing 480 acres in the Coal Creek and Azabache grazing allotments.

2000 Planned Actions

- Complete the Riparian Habitat EIS (scheduled for October, 2000.)
- Re-assess 30 miles of riparian habitat.
- Plant 108 cottonwood poles and 50 containerized seedlings in the Cebolla Canyon and Rinconada Canyon riparian areas.
- Establish a 4,100 acre riparian and watershed protection pasture in Cebolla Canyon.
- Establish a 700 acre riparian and watershed protection enclosure as part of the Rio Puerco Management

Committee project to return the Rio Puerco to its original meander.

Range

Program Notes. In January 1998, the Albuquerque Field Office along with all New Mexico BLM initiated aggressive action on reviewing grazing permit renewals for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. This process involves extensive on-the-ground review of each permit renewal as well as preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) for each permit renewal. In light of this unplanned workload, some Fiscal Year 98 and 99 planned actions changed or were modified in order to mesh with this higher priority work.

1998 Accomplishments

- Prepared a Cooperative Resource Management Plan (CRMP) for the Cerro Brillante Allotment for public comment and review. CRMP documents planned for the Azabache and El Malpais allotments were postponed so that they could be incorporated into the permit renewal and NEPA compliance process.
- Began Qualitative Assessments of rangeland health on 40 grazing allotments as part of NEPA compliance actions for permit renewal.
- Collected site inventory data on the El Malpais Grazing Allotment.
- Constructed 3½ miles of livestock water pipeline on the Azabache Allotment. Constructed 1 mile of fence on Azabache. This fence project created a riparian pasture in Arroyo Chico which by permittee agreement will receive winter grazing only.
- Treated 7,000 acres of sagebrush with herbicide for watershed improvement/rangeland health.
- Prepared a Pesticide Use Proposal and accompanying EA for noxious weed control in the Upper Rio Puerco Watershed.
- Initiated noxious weed pilot project to control musk thistle along State Road 44 near Cuba.
- Entered into a Cooperative Agreement with Cibola County Road Department for treatment of noxious weeds along County roads and rights-of-way.
- Completed a Noxious Weed Management Plan for State Road 44 construction.

1999 Accomplishments

- Conducted a field day for Field Office personnel to learn to identify noxious weeds.
- Treated 38 acres of noxious weeds.
- Inventoried 1,144 acres of noxious weeds.
- Initiated 4 monitoring studies to track noxious weed control results.
- Finalized the Cerro Brillante Allotment CRMP.
- Analyzed 20 allotments through the NEPA compliance process for grazing permit renewals.
- Completed 3 miles of riparian exclosure along the Rio Puerco in the Coal Creek Allotment.
- Treated 10,500 acres of sagebrush with herbicide for watershed improvement/rangeland health.
- Implemented prescribed sagebrush burn in Wilson Canyon for improved watershed/rangeland health.

2000 Planned Actions

- Treat 8,000 acres of sagebrush with herbicide for watershed improvement/rangeland health.
- Review 36 grazing allotments through the NEPA compliance process for grazing permit renewal.
- Construct 2 riparian exclosures along Arroyo Chico.
- Prescribed burns for sagebrush control are planned; however, the prescribed fire program has been temporarily suspended by the Department of Interior.

Wildlife

Program Notes. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDG&F) owns and is responsible for resident wildlife. The BLM is responsible for the wildlife habitat under its stewardship.

1998-1999 Accomplishments

- Completed 10 Sikes Act projects:

Azabache Riparian Area management El Malpais guzzlers (3) Chico Arroyo riparian fence (II) and study exclosures Chijuilla culvert modifications Raptor perch poles in Cabezon area (10) Rio Puerco riparian areas planting Chijuilla reforestation

Mesa del Oro fence modifications

- Initiated 5 Sikes Act projects:

Arroyo Colorado saltcedar treatment Techado Mesa reforestation Wildlife escape ramps Maintenance of previous Sikes Act projects

- Completed 4 non-Sikes Act projects:

Oak Spring rehabilitation Perea Nature Trail boardwalks and graveling Chijuilla wire checks

- Conducted 4 volunteer projects:

Boy Scouts constructed a bird blind, bench, and graveled trail at Perea Nature Trail

NM Back Country Horsemen worked on spring development at Chamisa Losa Spring

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation removed ¾ mile of unneeded pasture fence at Elk Springs ACEC

Sierra Club worked on modifying spring development and closing two-track road into Oak Spring

- Identified State and private land parcels within Elk Springs ACEC for acquisition as part of the Ball Ranch Land Exchange.
- Increased noxious weed control program:

Treated Russian knapweed and musk thistle along NM 44, NM 197, in Naranjo Fuelwood Area, and in the Rio Puerco riparian areas

Treated saltcedar in Rio Puerco riparian areas, and along the Arroyo Colorado

Continued coordination efforts with the NM State Highway Department to control weeds along highway rights-of-way

Continued conducting noxious weed awareness lectures for various organizations

- Continued implementation of Watchable Wildlife Program:

Continued development of Perea Nature Trail in Rio Salado marsh/riparian area

- Conducted 7 Natural Resource Labs for the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI).
- Completed 3 Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations for grazing permit renewals.

2000 Planned Actions

- Continue implementation of Sikes Act "Habitat Stamp Program," including plan update and construction of projects approved by the NM State Game Commission.
- Initiate the following Sikes Act projects funded for 2000:

Elk Springs ACEC South Mesa catchment Kinaird Arroyo sagebrush shaving Tent Rocks ACEC catchment Rinconada Canyon riparian fence Arroyo Colorado prescribed fire

- Continue implementation of the following Sikes Act projects:

Arroyo Colorado saltcedar treatment Techado Mesa reforestation Wildlife escape ramps Maintenance of previous Sikes Act projects

- Continue or initiate the following non-Sikes Act projects:

Perea Nature Trail interpretation and trail work Chijuilla wire checks

Cuba airstrip/Señorito riparian protection fence Elk Springs ACEC fence removal (volunteer project)

- Continue to work with various volunteer organizations to construct habitat improvement projects.
- Continue land acquisition efforts in Elk Springs ACEC.
- Continue noxious weed control program.
- Continue riparian area plantings and improvements.
- Continue implementation of Watchable Wildlife Program.
- Complete 4 Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations.
- Continue riparian area plantings and improvements.
- Continue implementation of Watchable Wildlife Program.
- Continue working with SIPI in conducting Natural Resource Labs.

Woodland Resources

1998 Accomplishments

- Issued 93 Christmas tree harvesting permits in the Tres Hermanos Grazing Allotment.
- Issued permits for harvest of piñon and one-seed juniper transplants along the Piedra Lumbre road.
- Numerous incidents of illegal wood harvesting occurred primarily in the Rio Puerco Basin area.

1999 Accomplishments

- Issued 84 Christmas tree harvesting permits in the Shroyer Grazing Allotment.
- Issued permits for the harvest of 1,300 piñon and one-seed juniper transplants in the Shroyer Grazing Allotment.
- Completed 250 acres of woodland condition inventory in the El Malpais and Techado Mesa grazing allotments.

2000 Planned Actions

- Issue 80 Christmas tree harvesting permits in the Chijuilla Grazing Allotment, as requested.
- Issue permits for the harvest of 850 piñon transplants in the Shroyer Grazing Allotment.
- Issue permits for the harvest of 180 cords of dead-and-down fuelwood.
- Complete 500 acres of woodland condition inventory in the Techado Mesa Grazing Allotment.
- Contract for woodland treatment and thinning in the Techado Mesa Grazing Allotment.

Recreation

Program Notes. For the purpose of this Update, Wilderness and Off-Highway Vehicles are treated as separate from the Recreation Program.

1998-1999 Accomplishments

- Installed permanent wooden post signs on the Tent Rocks National Recreation Trail to help reduce social trails and enhance the visitor experience.
- Began implementation of the Cooperative Management Agreement (CMA) between Pueblo de Cochiti and BLM-AFO, signed December 12, 1997 for management of the Tent Rocks Special Management Area

- (SMA). The Pueblo assisted, through the partnership, in the management of the recreation pilot fee demonstration project, visitor use, installation of management facilities, and assisted with resource protection measures at Tent Rocks.
- Built a new parking lot and installed rail fencing, a vault toilet, retaining wall, and interpretive signs at Tent Rocks utilizing funds generated by the recreation pilot fee demonstration project.
- Continued route selection and trail marking for the Upper Rio Puerco segment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) which begins at El Banquito gate along BLM Road 1103 within the Ignacio Chavez SMA and ends in Cuba. This work is being done by BLM staff and volunteers. About 27 miles remain of the approximate 52 miles of trail.
- Issued 1 Special Recreation Permit (SRP) for commercial guided day hikes at Cabezon, Tent Rocks, and El Malpais.
- Issued 5 SRPs for big game outfitter guide service. These permits are stipulated according to the rules and regulations of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDG&F).
- Installed interpretation/information kiosks at Cabezon, Ignacio Chavez SMA, and Perea Nature Trail.
- Coordinated with NM State Highway and Transportation Department to have signs for Perea Nature Trail posted on Highway 44 in San Ysidro.
- Gathered visitor use information and identified unauthorized activities through patrol and surveillance of recreation resources.

2000 Planned Actions

- Install picnic tables and a permanent trash receptacle at the Tent Rocks recreation pilot fee demonstration site. Trail work and maintenance is also planned to improve circulation and visitor safety and to protect geologic, scenic, and other natural resources within the area.
- Continue route selection and trail marking for the CDNST. The route will be marked with cairns, signs, and posts.
- Issue 2 SRPs for commercial guided day hikes within the AFO.
- Issue 10 SRPs for the purpose of big game hunting outfitter guide service.

- Reconstruct the short segment of trail providing access to La Ventana, one of New Mexico's largest natural arches, located within El Malpais NCA. Reconstruct the Tent Rocks trail. Repair the trail at Casamero Ruin located northwest of El Malpais NCA.
- Add interpretation of plants, geology, wildlife, soil, and water at the Perea Nature Trail located just outside of San Ysidro.
- Continue patrol, monitoring, and surveillance of recreation resources to gather visitor use information and identify unauthorized activities.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV)

1998-1999 Accomplishments

- Continued Global Positioning System (GPS) inventory of roads and trails within AFO.
- Reissued the SRP to the New Mexico Trials Association (NMTA) for use of the San Ysidro Trials Area. NMTA has adopted this area and works with AFO under a CMA.
- Approved the Decision Record for the EA and Plan Amendment for Vehicle Use in the Ignacio Chavez SMA. Implemented the road rehabilitation plan.
- Maintained BLM Road 1103 in the Ignacio Chavez SMA. Work was performed by the Sandoval County Highway Department.

2000 Planned Actions

- Repair a section of eroded road leading into the San Ysidro Trials Area.
- Complete a Determination of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy and issue a SRP to Southwest Off-Road Enterprises for a motorcycle race to be held in the Competitive Dune Buggy Event Area.
- Continue GPS inventory of existing roads and trails within the AFO.
- Identify a rock crawling play area as requested by the NM 4-Wheelers Club. This area would be designated outside of SMAs. A signing system would be put in place to enable users to stay within the limitations of their OHVs.
- Amend the Rio Puerco RMP through the NM Standards and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management. The current RMP decision which reads, "Permitted events such as the 'Oh My God 100' will continue to be authorized as not limited to existing roads

and trails" would be amended to read, "Permitted competitive events such as the 'Oh My God 100' will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and limited to existing roads and trails." A second decision would also be amended. The current decision which reads, "Another area has been designated for competitive dune buggy events using existing routes (Map 16)" would be amended to read, "Competitive dune buggy events will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and limited to existing roads and trails."

- Designate all public lands within El Malpais National Conservation Area (NCA) that have not been previously classified and those designated as "open" by the 1986 RMP as "limited." Limit vehicle use in "limited" area designations within the NCA to "designated roads and trails" instead of "existing roads and trails." These actions would be accomplished through the Proposed El Malpais Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

Wilderness/Wilderness Study Areas

1998-1999 Accomplishments

- Continued monitoring and surveillance patrols of the 9 WSAs.
- Continued to teach the "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" outdoor ethics programs.
- Continued the "Operational Respect" initiative during the fall hunting and piñon gathering season in the Ignacio Chavez SMA.
- Continued to implement the CMA between the Pueblo of Zia and the AFO in the Ojito WSA/ACEC. Continued resource protection and public outreach projects with the Pueblo.
- Implemented pull-off parking areas and road gate closures to the stock tanks, and placed information signs along BLM Road 1103 within the Ignacio Chavez SMA. This was done to discourage cross-country travel by motorized vehicles in areas closed to this type of use in order to prevent resource damage.
- Replaced deteriorated fencing on the south boundary and added 3 horse walk-throughs in the Ignacio Chavez SMA.
- Installed landscape timbers labeled with road designations along WSA boundary roads for the purpose of public identification.
- Completed a photo monitoring system for the Ojito, Cabezon, La Leña, Empedrado, Chamisa, Ignacio Chavez, Manzano, and Petaca Pinta WSAs. There are 42 photo points in all.

2000 Planned Actions

- Continue surveillance of the 9 WSAs with emphasis placed on eliminating unauthorized use, monitoring of authorized uses, maintenance of boundary and other regulatory signs, monitoring the condition of wilderness characteristics, and providing environmental education.
- Continue to coordinate with the U.S. Forest Service Mt. Taylor Ranger District and the NM Department of Game and Fish on seasonal closure dates and public outreach issues for the Ignacio Chavez SMA.
- Continue to implement the CMA between the Pueblo of Zia and AFO.
- Continue photo-monitoring in the WSAs.
- Continue "Operation Respect" during the fall hunting and piñon gathering season in the Ignacio Chavez SMA.
- Reconstruct BLM Road 1103 in the Ignacio Chavez SMA to improve drainage and improve the roadway surface.

Volunteer Program

1998-1999 Accomplishments

- Approximately 40 volunteers attended a Volunteer Appreciation Day hosted by the AFO.
- The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail was selected as a National Public Lands Day site. Over 60 volunteers participated. Two kiosks were installed at the CDNST trailheads in El Malpais NCA.
- 230 volunteers donated 8,638 hours which represents approximately \$97,000 in donated labor.

2000 Planned Actions

- Continue working with the dedicated group of volunteers willing to donate their time and expertise to the AFO mission.

Cultural Resources

1998 Accomplishments

- Accomplished quarterly monitoring and photo documentation at Guadalupe, Arroyo, Dittert, Oak Tree, Casamero, San Mateo, Andrews Ranch, and Kin Nizhoni Ruins.
- Maintained area-wide patrol and surveillance activity with continued emphasis on selected sites.

- Expanded staff/volunteer monitoring and patrol activity with emphasis on the Jones Canyon and Mesa Portales areas.
- Continued coordination and assistance to the Cañoncito Navajo (To'hajiilee) in reconstruction of the Tower Ruin site.
- Completed the stabilization of Azabache Station through contract with National Park Service (NPS).

1999 Accomplishments

- Accomplished quarterly monitoring and photo documentation at Guadalupe, Arroyo, Dittert, Oak Tree, Casamero, San Mateo, Andrews Ranch, and Kin Nizhoni Ruins.
- Maintained area-wide patrol and surveillance activity with continued emphasis on selected sites.
- Expanded staff/volunteer monitoring and patrol activity in the Mesa Portales, Jones Canyon, and Lindrith areas.
- Completed stabilization at Casamero Ruin through contract with NPS.
- Initiated stabilization at Guadalupe Ruin through contract with NPS.
- Continued coordination and assistance to the To'hajiilee Navajo (Cañoncito) in nearing completion of the rebuilding of Tower Ruin.

2000 Planned Actions

- Continue quarterly monitoring and photo documentation at Guadalupe, Arroyo, Dittert, Oak Tree, Casamero, San Mateo, Andrews Ranch, and Kin Nizhoni Ruins.
- Continue area-wide patrol and surveillance with volunteers and staff in coordination with BLM Law Enforcement personnel.
- Complete stabilization at Guadalupe Ruin through contract with NPS.
- Document the completed Tower Ruin reconstruction.

Lands and Realty

1998 Accomplishments

- Completed 2 purchase acquisitions in El Malpais NCA (640-acre Arrossa Ranch and 170-acre Rickmer property) and initiated 2 other land purchases.

- Completed a new withdrawal (Humate Withdrawal II) of 2,176.70 acres of public land from the operation of the general land laws, including the mining laws.
- Continued to process the Ball Ranch State Exchange through completion of an EA. This exchange was formally dropped in 1999 and two new exchanges were initiated (Santo Domingo/San Felipe Exchanges.)
- Continued to process the R&PP lease application for the Cuba Soil and Water Conservation District Administrative site near Cuba.
- Continued to process the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) lease application for the University of New Mexico (UNM) Lodestar Observatory Park on Horace Mesa near Grants.
- Continued to process the Fort Wingate Depot Activity (FWDA) military withdrawal revocation and withdrawal to Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).
- Processed 15 right-of-way cases and 2 land use authorizations.
- Continued revisions to the Road Transportation Plan.
- Continued processing the following right-of-way projects:

PNM powerline
Gas Company of New Mexico pipeline
Stabilization of the Rio Puerco south of Cuba
Rio Salado project north of San Ysidro
Torreon Wash Project along State Highway 197
State Road 44 widening
Guadalupe road/bridge (Sandoval County)
Quarterly inspections on landfills

- Continued processing the following major pipeline right-of-way cases:

West Emerald pipeline project (Diamond Shamrock)
Mid-America Pipeline Company (MAPCO)

- Continued processing the following R&PP applications:

Torreon/Dunkard Brethren Church Site lease Lindrith and Ojito Cemetery lease Cibola County Recreation Park lease Del Norte Gun Club patent

1999 Accomplishments

- Completed a land exchange which acquired approximately 40 acres in El Malpais NCA and disposed of approximately 17 acres in Pie Town, NM.

- Completed a land purchase for 80 acres within El Malpais NCA.
- Completed a new withdrawal (Humate Withdrawal III) of 3,716.83 acres of public land from the operation of the general land laws, including the mining laws, and 858.52 acres of Federal minerals underlying private surface from the mining laws.
- Initiated the San Felipe/Santo Domingo Land Exchanges.
- Continued to process FWDA Public Land Order modification to transfer jurisdiction of a portion of FWDA to the BIA for the benefit of the Navajo Nation and Zuni Tribe.
- Continued to process the UNM Lodestar Observatory Park proposed R&PP lease on Horace Mesa near Grants.
- Continued to process R&PP lease application for the Cuba Soil and Water Conservation District Administrative Site and outdoor education project.
- Initiated a withdrawal to segregate Federal lands involved in the Santo Domingo Land Claims Global Settlement and initiated the withdrawal process for the U.S. Forest Service lands involved.
- Completed a Commercial Occupancy Lease for an unauthorized trespass with the Prewitt/Baca Navajo Chapter for approximately 10 acres.
- Completed a decision to reject a major right-of-way application for Navajo Refining Company for an 8.6 inch, 20 mile long pipeline.
- Completed 8 right-of-way cases and 2 land use authorization permits.
- Continued revision of the Road Transportation Plan.
- Continued processing the following right-of-way projects:

New Torreon road (Sandoval County Road 926) Guadalupe road/bridge (Sandoval County) Placitas Open Space road/parking lot La Jara community ditch

Acoma Pueblo access road connecting to Alamo road PNM power line (Rio Puerco to Albuquerque)

U.S. West fiber optics line (Rio Puerco to Albuquerque)

State Road 44 widening project Quarterly inspections on landfills - Continued processing the following major pipeline right-of-way cases:

PNM West Mesa to Person Station pipeline Aspen pipeline

- Continued processing the following R&PP applications:

Bernalillo Public Schools lease Cibola County Recreation Park lease Del Norte Gun Club patent Torreon/Dunkard Brethren Church Site lease Lindrith and Ojito Cemetery lease

- Initiated "show cause" order to Village of Milan to revert their R&PP patent to BLM due to lack of development.

2000 Planned Actions

- Initiate a land exchange with the State Land Office to acquire Wilderness Study Area inholdings and other State lands to consolidate land ownership in the AFO.
- Complete 3 purchase acquisitions in El Malpais NCA.
- Complete a transfer of jurisdiction and change of reservation of one parcel within FWDA to the BIA.
- Continue to process the following:

San Felipe/Santo Domingo Exchanges Transfer of jurisdiction of FWDA to BIA for the benefit of the Navajo Nation and the Zuni Tribe UNM Lodestar Observatory Park R&PP lease appli-

Cuba Soil and Water Conservation District Administrative Site and outdoor education project R&PP lease application

Placitas Open Space road/parking lot

- Complete a land withdrawal for a U.S. Forest Service Administrative Site.
- Complete 2 road closures.
- Process 5 right-of-way cases.
- Complete Kirtland Air Force Base and BLM Memorandum of Understanding for drop zones located on BLM lands.
- Continue revisions to Road Transportation Plan.

- Continue updating Surface Management Status maps.
- Continue monitoring compliance on the following right-of-way projects:

New Torreon road (Sandoval County Road 926)
La Jara community ditch
Guadalupe road/bridge
PNM West Mesa to Person Station pipeline
State Road 44 widening project
Acoma Pueblo access road connecting to Alamo road
Quarterly inspections on landfills

- Continue processing the following major pipeline right-of-way cases:

PNM pipeline MAPCO (formerly Aspen Pipeline)

- Continue processing the following R&PP applications:

Bernalillo Public School R&PP lease Cibola County Recreation Park lease Del Norte Gun Club R&PP patent Torreon/Dunkard Brethren Church Site lease Lindrith and Ojito Cemetery lease

- Continue "show cause" order to Village of Milan to revert their R&PP patent to BLM.

Grants Field Station

Program Notes. On December 31, 1987, Congress passed Public Law (PL) 100-225 establishing El Malpais National Conservation Area (NCA). As required by the law, a General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment was prepared and published by the BLM in 1991. The GMP/EA was appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) on the grounds that an RMP Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should have been prepared. In 1994, the IBLA decided in favor of the appellants, directing the BLM to prepare a land use plan with an EIS for the NCA. A plan amendment/EIS (PA/EIS) covering the NCA and acquired contiguous lands was issued for public review in 1999. The PA/EIS proposes constructing additional recreation facilities, limiting recreation use at the Narrows, interpretative programs, amending the off-road vehicle area designations and applying designations to acquired lands, road closures, and limiting OHVs to designated routes. It also assigns visual resource management classes to recently acquired lands and amends existing classes, designates additional Back Country Byways, considers wilderness suitability and management, allocation of cultural resources to public use, provisions for scientific use of certain historic and cultural resources, facilitating

American Indian uses and traditional cultural practices, improving wildlife habitat, the reestablishment of potential natural plant communities, and boundary and land tenure adjustments. The Proposed PA/Final EIS will be issued in 2000, with the Record of Decision expected in late 2000.

1998 Accomplishments

- Continued to staff the El Malpais Ranger Station 7 days a week. Staff included 5 volunteers, a summer seasonal, and a Student Conservation Association (SCA) volunteer.
- Continued patrol and surveillance of designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.
- Continued patrol and surveillance outside the NCA but near the area.
- Continued to clean up campsites and trash dumping, mitigated vandalism, and maintained signs.
- Continued Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) monitoring program.
- Offered interpretative programs on established schedule during summer months. Interpretative programs offered on-site and in the classroom during school year.
- Continued route selection for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail through the Chain of Craters.

1999 Accomplishments

- Installed wayside interpretive exhibits at La Ventana Natural Arch.
- Continued to staff El Malpais Ranger Station 7 days a week.
- Continued patrol and surveillance of designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.
- Continued to clean up campsites and trash dumping, mitigated vandalism, and maintained signs.
- Continued interpretive programs on-site and in the classroom.
- Completed route selection and began building Continental Divide Trail through the Chain of Craters.
- Began combined effort with National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service for operation of the Northwest New Mexico Visitors Center (NWNMVC).
- Moved the Cebolla Canyon road out of a wetland

area to improve travel and protect resources.

- Continued LAC monitoring program.
- Continued patrol and surveillance of designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.

2000 Planned Actions

Program Notes. In partnership with the National Park Service, we are preparing a Joint Fire Management Plan together with an environmental assessment for El Malpais National Conservation Area and El Malpais National Monument. Under the preferred alternative, three fire management zones would be identified for BLM and NPS lands: a fire suppression zone, a wildland fire use zone, and a fuels management zone. The goal of this plan would be to, as much as possible, return fire to its natural role in the ecosystem. If the preferred alternative is adopted, BLM and NPS may utilize prescribed fire as well as non-fire treatments to reduce fuels hazards to more natural levels in El Malpais NCA and El Malpais National Monument.

- Complete Continental Divide Trail through the Chain of Craters.
- Fence riparian area at Cebolla Canyon.
- Open multi-agency center (NWNMVC).
- Staff NWNMVC 40 hours a week.
- Construct workshop/storage shed at the Ranger Station.
- Stabilize Casamero Ruin through contract with the National Park Service.
- Increase interpretive programs with extensive school participation.
- Continue to staff Ranger Station 7 days a week.
- Continue patrol and surveillance of designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.
- Continue to clean up campsites and trash dumping, mitigate vandalism, and maintain signs.

- Continue LAC monitoring program.
- Maintain wildlife waters, recreation trails, and other improvements in the NCA.
- Build nature trail behind the Ranger Station.
- Improve the Cebolla Canyon road.
- Continue inventory of petroglyphs within the NCA utilizing services of volunteers.
- Rebuild the trail to La Ventana Arch.
- Prepare joint fire management plan for El Malpais NCA (BLM) and El Malpais National Monument (NPS).
- Continue patrol and surveillance of designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.

Law Enforcement

Program Notes. The Albuquerque Field Office maintains an active Law Enforcement Program. This program has two areas of emphasis: first, protection of

public land users, employees, natural resources, and property, and second, investigation, apprehension, and prosecution of persons committing criminal violations against the laws of the United States. The law enforcement rangers provide field support to many of the programs for which the AFO has responsibility, provide technical support for civil and administrative processes for recovery of damages and restitution, and coordinate with allied State and Federal agencies with responsibilities on the public lands. They perform extensive field patrols, including weekend patrols, of the public lands to deter criminal activity. Every year, they investigate all reports of violations, including illegal fuelwood removal, household garbage dumping, and illegal grazing. A major focus of the AFO program is investigation of violations of the Archeological Resources Protection Act.

APPENDIX 1

Albuquerque Field Office Environmental Assessments Fiscal Year 1998

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-98-01X	San Jose Badlands Sampling-Kinney Brick	Minerals	Approved	11/21/97
NM-010-98-02	Arrossa/Rickmer Land Purchases	Lands	Approved	10/24/97
NM-010-98-03	Arroyo Lucero Catchments	Wildlife	Approved	11/17/97
NM-010-98-04X	San Pedro S&G Sale	Minerals	Approved	11/15/97
NM-010-98-05	White Mesa Mine Plan ModAmerican Gypsum	Minerals	Approved	11/17/97
NM-010-98-06	San Luis Watering Trough	Range	Cancelled	
NM-010-98-07	January Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	11/17/97
NM-010-98-08	Cabresto Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	12/08/97
NM-010-98-09	R/W-Regina Water Storage Tank	Lands	Withdrawn	
NM-010-98-10	Elm Ridge Resources APDs (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	12/16/97
NM-010-98-11	Limark Fed 27-1 APD	Minerals	Approved	12/15/97
NM-010-98-12	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Mgmt Plan	Wildlife	Approved	02/17/98
NM-010-98-13	Santa Ana Mine Expansion	Minerals	Approved	07/29/98
NM-010-98-14	UNM Lodestar Observatory R&PP Lease	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-98-15X	R/W-Continental Divide Electric Coop	Lands	Approved	02/23/98
NM-010-98-16X	R/W-Socorro Electric Coop	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-98-17	April Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	02/10/98
NM-010-98-18	Soil Analysis for Lodestar Project	Lands	Approved	03/17/98
NM-010-98-19	Cabresto Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	02/17/98
NM-010-98-20	Tom Allotment Pipeline	Range	Approved	04/01/98
NM-010-98-21	Tapacitos Wash/Wild Horse Mesa APDs-Conoco	Minerals	Approved	04/23/98
NM-010-98-22AD	FUP-Dunlap Ranch Borrow-NMSH&TD	Minerals	Approved	04/20/98
NM-010-98-23X	Ball Ranch Sampling-CalMat	Minerals	Approved	4/15/98
NM-010-98-24	Azabache Station Stabilization	Cultural	Approved	05/19/98

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-98-25	Chijuilla Culvert Modifications	Wildlife	Approved	06/19/98
NM-010-98-26	Elk Com #1 APD & R/W-McElvain	Minerals	Approved	05/27/98
NM-010-98-27	Lindrith B #105 APD-Conoco	Minerals	Approved	06/12/98
NM-010-98-28	Big Sagebrush Herbicide Treatment	Range	Approved	10/16/98
NM-010-98-29X	LUA-Richard Home Photography/Danskin	Lands	Approved	6/15/98
NM-010-98-30	Ball Ranch Test Well-CalMat	Minerals	Withdrawn	
NM-010-98-31	R/W-Water Storage Tank & Access-Village of San Ysidro	Lands	Approved	09/14/98
NM-010-98-32	APD-Burlington Resources (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	06/12/98
NM-010-98-33	R/W-Interstate 40 Rio Puerco Bridge-NMSH&TD	Lands	Approved	01/05/98
NM-010-98-34	Ball Ranch Exchange #2	Lands	Cancelled	
NM-010-98-35	Cabresto Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	06/26/98
NM-010-98-36X	San Luis Tower Landscape Rock Sale	Minerals	Approved	06/30/98
NM-010-98-37	Cabresto Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	08/21/98
NM-010-98-38	Fork Rock #1 APD-High Plains Petroleum	Minerals	Approved	07/30/98
NM-010-98-39X	Cabezon Raptor Perch Poles	Wildlife	Cancelled	
NM-010-98-40	El Malpais Catchments	Wildlife	Approved	04/20/99
NM-010-98-41	Arroyo Colorado Salt Cedar Control	Range	Approved	05/26/99
NM-010-98-42	Lindrith #106 APD-Conoco	Minerals	Approved	08/12/98
NM-010-98-43	APDs-Taurus Exploration (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	09/10/98
NM-010-98-44X	R/W-Jemez Electric Coop for Sanchez Family	Lands	Approved	10/18/98
NM-010-98-45X	Cebolla Spring Extension	Range	Cancelled	
NM-010-98-46	SRP-Commercial Guiding-H-J Outfitters	Recreation	Approved	08/25/98
NM-010-98-47	Soil Profile Pits/San Luis & Cabezon-USGS	Soils	Approved	09/02/98
NM-010-98-48	APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	10/20/98
NM-010-98-49X	SRP for Wedding at La Ventana Arch	Recreation	Approved	09/24/98
NM-010-98-50	Cerro Brillante CRMP	Range	Approved	09/15/98
NM-010-98-51	Reissue SRP-Puerto Ranch Outfitter	Recreation	Approved	10/07/98

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-98-52	SRP-Commercial Guiding-Terry Kayser Outfitters	Recreation	Approved	10/07/98
NM-010-98-53X	R/W-Gas Injection Line-Pride Energy	Lands	Approved	10/01/98
NM-010-98-54	R/W-Jemez Electric Coop (Lucero Family)	Lands	Approved	10/23/98
NM-010-98-55	VOID			
NM-010-98-56	Eagle Mesa 3-D Seismic Project-San Juan Joint Venture	Minerals	Approved	10/5/98

Abbreviations: AD - Administrative Determination of NEPA Adequacy; APD - Application for Permit to Drill; CRMP - Coordinated Resource Management Plan; FUP - Free-Use Permit; LUA - Land Use Authorization; R&PP - Recreation and Public Purposes; R/W - Right-of-Way; S&G - Sand and Gravel; SRP - Special Recreation Permit; X - Categorical Exclusion

APPENDIX 1 (Continued)

Albuquerque Field Office Environmental Assessments Fiscal Year 1999

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-99-01	SRP-Commercial Guiding-Robert Rawlins Outfitter	Recreation	Approved	10/10/98
NM-010-99-02	Burns Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	10/20/98
NM-010-99-03X	San Jose Badlands Mine	Minerals	Approved	10/28/98
NM-010-99-04	SRP-Commercial Guiding-Towner Ranch Outfitter	Recreation	Approved	11/10/98
NM-010-99-05	La Jara Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	11/12/98
NM-010-99-06	Burns Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	11/25/98
NM-010-99-07	R/W-NM 44 Expansion-NMSH&TD	Lands	Approved	01/10/99
NM-010 9908	January Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	11/03/99
NM-010-99-09	Eagle Mesa Seismic Project Line Addition-San Juan Joint Venture	Minerals	Approved	11/02/98
NM-010-99-10	Burns Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	01/05/99
NM-010-99-11	R/W Amendment-Angel Peak Gathering System Compressor-El Paso Field Services	Lands	Approved	12/21/98
NM-010-99-12	APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals`	Approved	02/02/99
NM-010-99-13	R/W-Guadalupe Road & Bridge-Sandoval County	Lands	Approved	02/11/99
NM-010-99-14	Sage Shaving	Range	Cancelled	
NM-010-99-15	La Jara Canyon APD-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	01/14/99
NM-010-99-16	Azabache Pipeline System	Range	Approved	01/05/99
NM-010-99-17	Aranda Pipeline Extension	Range	Approved	05/27/99
NM-010-99-18	La Jara Canyon APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	02/02/99
NM-010-99-19	VOID			
NM-010-99-20	Fruitland Humate Withdrawal	Lands	Approved	01/29/99
NM-010-99-21	APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	02/02/99
NM-010-99-22	R/W-Elk Com #1 Pipeline-El Paso Field Services	Lands	Approved	02/08/99
NM-010-99-23	County Line 3-D Seismic Project-San Juan Joint Venture	Minerals	Approved	05/14/99

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-99-24	April Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	02/05/99
NM-010-99-25	R/W-Placitas Open Space Access-Sandoval County	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-99-26X	Tent Rocks Cattleguard	Range	Approved	05/21/99
NM-010-99-27	R/W-Candelaria Access-First Security Bank	Lands	Withdrawn	
NM-010-99-28	Palomas Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	11/05/99
NM-010-99-29	Esposito Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-30	R/W-Lindrith Area Fiber Optics-GTE Southwest	Lands	Approved	05/28/99
NM-010-99-31	FUP-Torrance County Borrow Pits-NMSH&TD	Minerals	Approved	05/10/99
NM-010-99-32	FUP-S&G-Rio Arriba County	Minerals	Approved	04/23/99
NM-010-99-33	El Malpais NCA Land Acquisition from Sawmill Investors Group	Lands	Approved	08/11/99
NM-010-99-34	SRP for "Oh My God" 100 Motorcycle Race	Recreation	Cancelled	
NM-010-99-35	Wilson Canyon Burn Management Fence	Range	Approved	04/20/99
NM-010-99-36	Penistaja Fed 23-1 APD-Penwell Energy	Minerals	Approved	05/12/99
NM-010-99-37	Chico Crossing Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-38	Noxious Weed Management in Upper Rio Puerco	Range	Approved	06/11/99
NM-010-99-39	Cerritos de Jaspe, Little Hole-in-the-Wall, Raney, and Ventana Allotments Grazing Permit Renewals	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-40X	LUA-Tent Rocks Photography-Elle Magazine	Lands	Approved	05/13/99
NM-010-99-41	LUA-NM 44 Temporary Use Areas-NMSH&TD	Lands	Approved	06/11/99
NM-010-99-42	SRP-Hiking & Camping-Cottonwood Gulch	Recreation	Approved	06/14/99
NM-010-99-43	FUP-H Ranch Quartzite Quarry-NMSH&TD	Minerals	Pending	
NM-010-99-44	Elk Com 4-7 APD-McElvain	Minerals	Approved	06/09/99
NM-010-99-45	Los Pilares Erosion Control	Range	Cancelled	
NM-010-99-46	Clinker Testing-Bar J Exploration	Minerals	Withdrawn	
NM-010-99-47	Lease-Baca/Prewitt Trespass	Lands	Approved	09/23/99
NM-010-99-48	Los Pilares Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	12/01/99
NM-010-99-49	Chijuilla Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-99-50	Continental Divide, Pelon, and South Divide Allotments Grazing Permit Renewals	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-51	Mineral Material Sale-Wallin Schist Quarry	Minerals	Approved	04/20/99
NM-010-99-52	Torreon Wash Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	04/20/00
NM-010-99-53	Los Pinos Arroyo Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-54	Tsidu-Weza Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-55	Chical Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-56	Driggers Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-57	R. Taylor Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-58	E. Mora Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-59	Aparcio Gurule Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-60	Lovato A. Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-61	Black Bear Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-62	Albert Gurule Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	10/01/99
NM-010-99-63	Herrera Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-64	Leonard Casaus Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-65	A&A Cattle Co. Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-66	Canada Ancha Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-67	King Brothers Ranch Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-68	Ojo Hallado Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-69	Tallings Pond Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/4/00
NM-010-99-70	Hondo Canyon Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-71	Rest Stop Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-72	Ojo Pueblo Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-73	EJO Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-74	Montaño Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-75	VM Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-76	Monument Lake Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00

EA Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-99-77	MBM Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-78	HL Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-79	ERI Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-80	Mountainair Lease Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-81	Fulfer Lease Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-82	E. Gallegos Lease Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-83	Wesseley Lease Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-84	Navarre Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-85	Ojitos Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Approved	01/04/00
NM-010-99-86	El Malpais Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	01/02/00
NM-010-99-87	Jicarilla 150 #4B APD-Burlington Resources (Jicarilla)	Range	Approved	07/30/99
NM-010-99-88	October Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	08/03/99
NM-010-99-89X	Emergency Repair-Chijuillita Gas Lines-PNM	Lands	Approved	08/24/99
NM-010-99-90	SRP-Commercial Guiding-C & J Outfitters	Recreation	Approved	01/03/99
NM-010-99-91	Canyon del Camino Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-92	SRP-Commercial Guiding-H & A Outfitters	Recreation	Approved	09/01/99
NM-010-99-93	Cabezon Community Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-94	Los Cerros Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	11/05/99
NM-010-99-95	Pino Spring Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-99-96	Rio Puerco Stream Corridor Rehabilitation/La Ventana Reach	Watershed	Pending	
NM-010-99-97	Cougar Com 33#1 APD & R/W-McElvain	Minerals	Approved	10/26/99
NM-010-99-98	Rutledge & F. Torres Allotments Grazing Permit Renewals	Range	Pending	

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APPENDIX 1 (Continued)

Albuquerque Field Office Environmental Assessments Fiscal Year 2000

Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-00-01	Eagle Springs 8 #1 APD-Penwell Energy	Recreation	Approved	11/29/99
NM-010-00-02	Torres Livestock Pens	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-03	Kinaird Arroyo Sage Shaving Treatment	Range	Approved	12/09/99
NM-010-00-04	January Oil and Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	11/03/99
NM-010-00-05	R/W-Cougar Com 33#1 Pipeline-El Paso Natural Gas	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-00-06	R/W-Penistaja 23#1 Pipeline/Powerline-Penwell Energy	Lands	Approved	06/23/00
NM-010-00-07	Chijuilla Christmas Tree Harvest Area	Forestry	Approved	12/09/99
NM-010-00-08	Shroyer Piñon Wilding Harvest Area	Forestry	Pending	
NM-010-00-09	Chijuilla Fuelwood Harvest Area	Forestry	Pending	
NM-010-00-10	Daniel Gonzales Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-11	Lost Valley Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-12	Mineral Material Test Trenches-FNF Exploration	Minerals	Approved	11/17/99
NM-010-00-13X	Mineral Mat Sale-Torreon Reddog Pit-Bar J Trucking	Minerals	Approved	11/17/99
NM-010-00-14	R/W-Fiber Optic Regeneration Sites-Pathnet	Lands	Approved	03/22/00
NM-010-00-15	APDs-Energen (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	11/30/99
NM-010-00-16X	R/W-Faucet Pump Station-Cabezon Water Association	Lands	Approved	04/28/00
NM-010-00-17	APDs-Energen (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	01/20/00
NM-010-00-18	Elk Com 10 #1A APD-McElvain	Minerals	Approved	12/21/99
NM-010-00-19	APD-Elm Ridge Resources (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	01/20/00
NM-010-00-20	Roundy Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-21	T.A. Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-22	APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	01/20/00
NM-010-00-23	SRP-Commercial Day Hiking-Hikah	Recreation	Approved	03/15/00

Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-00-24DNA	SRP-Oh My God 100 Motorcycle Race	Recreation	Approved	03/15/00
NM-010-00-25	El Banquito/Azabache Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range		
NM-010-00-26	APDs-Energen (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	02-08-00
NM-010-00-27	Techado Mesa Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Approved	05/01/00
NM-010-00-28	VOID			
NM-010-00-29	APDs & R/Ws-McElvain	Minerals/ Lands	Approved	03/14/00
NM-010-00-30	LUA for Explosives Testing-TPL	Lands	Approved	03/02/00
NM-010-00-31	R/W-La Jara Ditch/Road-La Jara Ditch Association	Lands		
NM-010-00-32	APDs-Mallon (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	03/07/00
NM-010-00-33X	San Ysidro Trials Area Arroyo Stabilization.	Recreation	Approved	03/07/00
NM-010-00-34	R/W-West Mesa to Person Station Pipeline-PNM	Lands	Approved	08/07/00
NM-010-00-35	R/W-Powerline to Fiber Optic Regeneration Station- Jemez Mountains Electric Coop	Lands	Approved	04/20/00
NM-010-00-36	Mineral Mat. Sale-Marian Butte Borrow Pit-Sundt	Minerals	Approved	04/27/00
NM-010-00-37X	Mineral Mat. Sale-Humates-Uranium King	Minerals	Pending	
NM-010-00-38	VOID			
NM-010-00-39	SRP-Commercial Guiding-Non-Typical Outfitters	Recreation	Approved	05/16/00
NM-010-00-40	R/W-New Torreon Road-Sandoval County	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-00-41	R/W-Relocate Powerline at New Rio PuercoBridge-PNM	Lands	Approved	04/28/00
NM-010-00-42	Schalk 41 #1B & #2B APDs-Schalk Development	Minerals	Approved	05/02/00
NM-010-00-43	July Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	04/26/00
NM-010-00-44	Cañada del Ojo Pasture Fence 1	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-45	LUA-Drilling-Los Alamos National Labs	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-00-46	Mineral Material Sale-Cañada Ancha Gravel Pit- Bobby Garcia Trucking (Taos Field Office)	Minerals	Approved	05/19/00
NM-010-00-47	Gallina Riparian Dumpsites Restoration	Riparian	Pending	

Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-00-48	Eagle Springs 8 #2M APD-Penwell Energy	Minerals	Approved	06/13/00
NM-010-00-49	Programmatic EA-Commercial Outfitter Hunting	Recreation	Approved	08/07/00
NM-010-00-50	Ilfeld Community Reservoir Maintenance	Range	Approved	06/27/00
NM-010-00-51	APDs-2000 Drilling Program-Conoco (Jicarilla)	Minerals	Approved	06/08/00
NM-010-00-52	Cañada Candelaria Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-53	Wilson Canyon Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-54	Forty-Four Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-55	Cerros Colorados & Cachulie Allotments Grazing Permit Renewals	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-56	Coal Creek Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-57	FUP-Borrow Material-Sandoval County	Minerals	Pending	
NM-010-00-58	Continental Divide National Scenic Trail-El Malpais NCA & Upper Rio Puerco Segments	Recreation	Pending	
NM-010-00-59	Rio Salado Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-60	SRP-San Miguel Dome OHV Rock Crawling Area	Recreation	Pending	
NM-010-00-61	Cuba Airstrip Fence	Wildlife	Pending	
NM-010-00-62	R/W-Access Road-Barbara Lasatar	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-00-63	R/W	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-00-64	October Oil & Gas Lease Sale	Minerals	Approved	08/10/00
NM-010-00-65	R/W-Access Road-Leo Ramirez	Lands	Pending	
NM-010-00-66	San Luis Community Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-67X	FUP-S&G Near Torreon-Torreon Chapter	Minerals	Pending	
NM-010-00-68	Bluewater Controlled Burn	Forestry	Pending	
NM-010-00-69	Bear Com 28 #1 APD-McElvain	Minerals	Pending	
NM-010-00-70	My Buddy Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-71	San Mateo Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-72	Four Daughters Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	

Number	Name	Program	Status	Date
NM-010-00-73	L.R. Nix Lease Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-74	Rito de los Piños Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-75	Reynolds Draw Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-76	Stevens Lease Allotment Grazing Lease Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-77	Lomas Altos Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-78	McCauley Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-79	Dye Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	
NM-010-00-80	Schmitz Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal	Range	Pending	

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